

**THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
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FOR RELEASE at will

The Cleveland Museum of Art has just accessioned an important Dutch Landscape entitled A VIEW OF EMMERICH FROM ACROSS THE RHINE by Jan van Goyen. It comes from the collection of the Duke of Westminster, London and is fully signed and dated 1645. It is listed in TREASURES OF ART IN GREAT BRITAIN, 1854, by G. F. Waagen.

The composition presents a Dutch city on the upper Rhine in the Golden Age with the ever present church spires, the low horizon, the union of sky and water, the heavenly light, the lustrous shimmer of the air that marks Holland. It is a scene of quiet peace - sacred calm - but nonetheless, a landscape treated as a stage upon which everyday life in the Lowlands is acted. The river shows a ferry overflowing with people and animals. Crowded into the ferry is a covered wagon hitched to horses, an open carriage with horses, a lone horse leaning over the side of the ferry to drink from the river. Cows wait serenely on the shore as the ferry is moored.

The scene of the picture is Emmerich, a border town between Holland and Germany. During World War II the greater part of the town was destroyed. Included in the destruction were buildings seen in the picture - the stunted 13th century Gothic spire of St. Aldegund's and the Romanesque Munster Kirche which had an 11th and 12th century crypt and choir.

Jan Josephszoon van Goyen was born in Leyden on January 13, 1596 just ten years before Rembrandt. He studied under Esaias van de Velde and this master gave van Goyen's art its definitive direction. Van Goyen was a member, and later president, of the Guild of St. Luke, the painters' guild of Holland. His daughter Margaret was the wife of Jan Steen, the genre painter so beloved by the Dutch people.

Van Goyen received many large orders from the Court and the Municipal Government in The Hague but artistic activity did not satisfy him. He began to deal in pictures and arrange sales. His passion for gambling led him to speculate in real estate - and tulips. Money ran through his fingers. In 1656 this man of rich creative imagination died in poverty in The Hague.

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